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Joseph Neguse ^[1]

2nd Congressional District, Democrat Current Term 2009-2015



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University of Colorado Regent Joseph Neguse is a CU alumnus and civic leader who has spent years advocating for public higher education.

A Democrat, he was elected in 2008 to the CU Board of Regents to represent Colorado's 2nd Congressional District. Neguse is one of the youngest public officials in the state, and was presented the "Rising Star Award" by the Colorado Democratic Party in 2010. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee; his six-year term ends in January 2015.

Neguse is an attorney, and practices law as an associate at the prestigious law firm Holland & Hart, LLP, in Denver. The son of immigrant parents from Eritrea, in northeast Africa, Neguse has spent most of his life in Colorado. He graduated summa cum laude from CU-Boulder in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in economics and political science. As CU-Boulder student body president and chair of the Intercampus Student Forum, he became a voice for nearly 54,000 students in the CU system before state agencies, the Colorado Legislature and the CU Board of Regents.

Neguse co-founded and directed the Fund Our Future Campaign, a grassroots effort aimed at increasing state funding for public higher education. Recognized widely for his efforts, Neguse became the first CU student to be bestowed with an "emeritus" standing by the Board of Regents. Following his graduation, he served as the Assistant to former Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, Rep. Andrew Romanoff, and co-founded New Era Colorado, a non-profit organization aimed at fostering the involvement of youth in the political process. He has also served as a Commissioner on the Boulder Housing Authority, appointed by the Boulder City Council, and on the CU Alumni Board of Directors.

In May of 2009, Neguse graduated from CU Law School. During law school, Neguse served as Class President and worked as an extern in Gov. Bill Ritter's Office of Legal Counsel. He also was a member of the CU Rothgerber Moot Court Team, and received the Austin W. Scott Jr. "Best Oralist" Award.

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